OCT 2 7 2003

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Date: Oct. 23.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applic. No.

10/033,227

Confirmation No:8514

Applicant

Gerald Deboy et al. October 22, 2001

Art Unit

Filed

2822

Examiner

Kiesha L. Rose GR 99 P 1679

Docket No. Customer No.:

24131

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated October 8, 2003, the following remarks are made:

In deference to the restriction requirement on pages 2 and 3 of the above-identified Office Action, applicants elect group I, claims 1-19 for prosecution at this time with traverse.

Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application including the claims of group II at a later date.

In view of the foregoing, the early issuance of an Action on the merits of claims in solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

For Applicants

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